Numb. 13830. [1163]

The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1795.

Downing-Street, November 11, 1795.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies, have been received from Lieutenant-Colonel Craufurd by the Right Honorable Lord Grenville, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

Head Quarters, Weilmunster, Oct. 18, 1795.

My Lord,

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordship, that since the 13th Instant the advanced Guards of the Austrian Army, under Generals Boros, Kray and Haddick, have been in constant Pursuit of the Enemy on all the Roads leading across the Lahn between Weilburgh and Nassau. General Warneck with the Reserve marched towards Limbourg, as a central Point, from which he could support the advanced Guards to his Right or Left, according to Circumstances, whilst the main Army advanced to the Camp of Weilmunster, between Usingen and Weilbourg, ready to cross the Lahn at the latter Place, and attack the Enemy's Left if they should attempt to maintain a Position on that River.

The Marshal has taken every Step that he judged best calculated to distress their Army, but their Retreat has been so precipitate, and the Country through which they marched so extremely intersected with Woods and deep Vallies, that he has only been able to bring on some Affairs with the best Troops of the Rear Guards of their different Columns. In these the Austrians have taken several Cannon, a great many Ammunition Waggons, and between One and Two Thousand Prisoners, besides having killed and wounded considerable Numbers.

It is expected that the Enemy will raise the Siege of Ehrenbreitstein To-day, and they seem determined to pass the Rhine, with the principal Part of their Army, at Neuwied, (where they have Bridges) as expeditiously as possible. Their Left Column is directing it's March towards Cologne.

The Austrian advanced Guards, supported by the Reserve, are still in Pursuit.

The Enemy have destroyed a great Quantity of Powder and other Stores, which they had not Time to send away,

I have the Honor to be, &c.

C. CRAUFURD.

Head Quarters, Weilmunster, October 19, 1795.

My Lord,

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordship, that the Siege of Ehrenbreitstein is raised, and the Enemy are crossing the Rhine as expeditiously as possible at Neuwied.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

C. CRAUFURD.

Right Hon. Lord Grenville,
&c. &c. &c.

Head Quarters of Marshal Clerfayt's Army, Limburg, October 26, 1795.

My Lord,

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordship, that General Wurmser has obtained a signal Advantage over the French in the Neighbourhood of Manheim, of which the following is a Detail:

In the Night from the 17th to the 18th Instant, that Part of the Austrian Army which was stationed before

[Price Four-pence Halfpenny.]

before Manheim, aſſembled in Five Columns, commanded by General Wurmſer in Perſon, to attack the different Poſts that the Enemy occupied in Front of that Place. The Diſpoſition was very maſterly, and the ſpirited Manner in which it was executed anſwered fully to the Wiſh and Expectations of the General. After a ſevere Action all the Works that the Enemy had thrown up were carried; their Tents and a great Deal of Baggage were taken, beſides ſome Cannon, and ſeveral Ammunition Waggons.

Owing to an impenetrable Fog, which continued the whole Night and great Part of the Morning, the Communication between the different Columns was extremely difficult, the prompt Execution of Orders was impoſſible, and the Generals could not conduct their Attacks with any Degree of Certainty. This unfortunate Circumſtance enabled the Enemy to get off the moſt of their Artillery, and prevented the Auſtrians from following them into the Place as General Wurmſer intended.

The Auſtrians had upon this Occaſion about Thirty Officers and between Six and Seven Hundred Non-commiſſioned Officers and Privates killed and wounded. The French had One General Officer, Twenty-one Officers, and between Five and Six Hundred Non-commiſſioned Officers and Privates taken Priſoners: Their Killed and Wounded are ſuppoſed to amount to about 2,000. In conſequence of this Victory Manheim is cloſely inveſted, and the Bombardment will be began immediately.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

C. CRAUFURD.

Lord Grenville, &c. &c. &c.

Head Quarters, Limburg, October 26, 1795.

My Lord,

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordſhip, that General Jourdan's Left Column, which had directed it's March towards Cologne, has paſſed the Rhine, as well as all thoſe Troops who retired upon Neuwied.

From the Reports of the different Corps which are now collected, it appears that the Auſtrians have taken in all, during the Enemy's Retreat, about 4,000 Priſoners, 30 Pieces of Cannon, and 200 Ammunition Waggons. The Enemy deſtroyed a great Quantity of Military Stores, which they had not Time to carry away. It is impoſſible to aſcertain with any Preciſion their Number of killed and wounded, but it muſt have been very conſiderable, more eſpecially as the Peaſants roſe againſt them in many Places. The whole Country through which the French have marched on this Occaſion bear the moſt evident Marks of their Depredations. There is no Village, and I may almoſt ſay no Houſe, that has not ample Reaſon to lament this Invaſion; for, however ſhort it's Duration has been, the Effects will be felt for many Years to come. The Inhabitants have been plundered of their Cattle, Grain, and whatever could be found that was valuable. In many Places what could not be carried off was deſtroyed. Even Women and Children have been murdered; in ſhort the manifold Acts of Atrocity, which are proved in the cleareſt Manner, are ſuch as could only be perpetrated by Men loſt to every Sentiment of Humanity.

The Pruſſian Troops that were on the Line of Demarkation, and the Guards which they ſtationed at different Places for the Purpoſe of affording Protection, were ill treated and driven away by the French with Expreſſions of Reſentment and Contempt.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

C. CRAUFURD

Right Hon. Lord Grenville,
&c. &c. &c.

Head Quarters of Marſhal Clerfaye,
Mayence, October 30, 1795.

My Lord,

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordſhip, that on the 28th Inſtant the Auſtrian Troops, under the Command of General Wurmſer, ſtormed the Galyenberg, an entrenched Height which formed an advanced Poſt to the Fortreſs of Manheim. The Poſſeſſion of this important Point facilitates extremely the Approaches againſt the Body of the Place. To favour the Aſſault of the Galyenberg, a falſe Attack was intended to be made upon the Necker Fort; however, the Impetuoſity of the Troops was ſuch, that they ſtormed it without having Orders to do ſo; but as it could not be maintained, being immediately under the Fire of the Town, they abandoned it, after ſpiking 13 Pieces of Cannon.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

C. CRAUFURD.

Right Hon. Lord Grenville,
&c. &c. &c.

Head Quarters of Marſhal Clerfaye,
Mayence, October 30, 1795.

My Lord,

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordſhip, that Marſhal Clerfaye attacked the Enemy's intrenched Camp before Mayence Yeſterday, and gained a compleate Victory. The following is a Detail of this very brilliant and important Operation.

Your Lordſhip will recollect that in the Month of November laſt the French took a Poſition upon the Heights in Front of Mayence, with their Right to Laubesheim and their Left to Budenheim; both of which Villages are on the Rhine, the former above, the latter below the Fortreſs. This Poſition completely inveſts the Place on that Side; and from the Time they firſt occupied it, almoſt to the Day of the Attack, they were conſtantly employed in conſtructing and perfecting the moſt formidable intrenchments

trenchments. These consisted of Two Lines. The first was composed of large detached Works, closed in the Rear, and covered and joined with each other by Three distinct Ranges of *Trous de Loups* *. The second was a complete connected Intrenchment, covered in the same Manner. The Ditches of both Lines were of a Depth and Breadth far beyond what is usual in Field Works. Every possible Advantage had been taken of the Ground, which is particularly favourable for the Formation of a fortified Camp; and the French Generals have been known to say frequently in private, that they considered this Position as wholly impregnable.

Marshal Clerfaye, after having forced General Jourdan to repass the Rhine, returned with a Part of his Army to the Camp of Wickert, about Five English Miles from Mayence; and in consequence of Information received by him that the Enemy intended to reinforce their Army before that Place very considerably, he, without waiting for those Troops that had advanced beyond the Lahn, determined to attack General Schaal, who occupied the Entrenchments above described with Fifty-two Battalions of Infantry and Five Regiments of Cavalry.

The Army that was destined for this Attack, consisting of Thirty-two regular Battalions, some Light Infantry, and Twenty-eight Squadrons of Cavalry, taken partly from the Garrison of Mayence, was formed into Four Divisions: One, of Ten Battalions and Six Squadrons, under General New; One, of Ten Battalions and Six Squadrons, under General Stader; One, of Five Battalions and Sixteen Squadrons, under General Colloredo; and One, of Seven Battalions of Grenadiers, under General Werneck. Generals New and Stader were to direct their March, the former towards the Heights above Laubenheim, the latter towards Heiligy Creutz (an old Church in Front of the Enemy's Right Wing) forming their Infantry into Three Lines, and attacking the Right of the Position in immediate Connection with each other, whilst the Waraldine Light Infantry got round the Village of Laubenheim; and about 1000 Sclavonians, who were embarked on the Rhine, landed under the Protection of Six Gun-Boats behind the Enemy's Right, and kept up a heavy Fire for the Purpose of making a Diversion. General Colloredo was to march towards Bretzenheim, a Village in Front of the Enemy's Center, from whence he was to detach a Part of his Troops, particularly Cavalry, to co-operate with General Stader, and with a Part of the Remainder he was to make Demonstrations towards different Points of the Center, whilst Two of his Battalions and Two Squadrons, with a considerable Proportion of heavy Artillery made false Attacks upon Monbach and Gonsenheim, Two Villages in Front of the Enemy's Left. Some Light Troops were to land behind the Left of the Position for the same Purpose as those who landed behind the Right. General Werneck's Division was to remain on the Glacis of Mayence as a Reserve.

It must be observed that Marshal Clerfaye directed his real Attack upon the most commanding and by far the strongest Part of the Camp, because the immediate Retreat of the Enemy's whole Army was the inevitable Consequence of Success on that Point.

The Attack commenced in this Order at Half an Hour past Five in the Morning. The Disposition was executed with the utmost Accuracy, and in a very short Time the Battle was decided in Favour of the Austrians, who displayed exemplary Discipline and Bravery. The General Officers, finding that they could not advance on Horseback on Account of the *Trous de Loups*, dismounted, and entered the Intrenchments on Foot at the Head of the Troops. The Enemy did not in the least expect to be attacked; and although they certainly had some Time to prepare for their Defence from the Difficulties that the Austrian Troops had to surmount in approaching the Works, yet it is to the Circumstance of Surprize, as well as to the uncommon Intrepidity with which the Attack was executed, that must be attributed their having abandoned without more Resistance one of the most formidable Positions that ever was occupied.

One Hundred and Six Pieces of Cannon, Two Hundred Ammunition Waggons, and about Two Thousand Prisoners (amongst these Two Generals and Sixty other Officers) are already brought into Mayence; whilst great Quantities of Stores of various Kinds, collected for the Purposes of the Siege, have likewise fallen into the Hands of the Austrians.

The Enemy's Killed and Wounded are supposed to amount to about 3000.

The Austrians had on this Occasion between Sixty and Seventy Officers and about Fifteen Hundred Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates killed and wounded: Amongst the former were Lieutenant-General Schmertzing and Major-General Wolckenheim.

General Naundorf crossed the Rhine in the Afternoon with Part of his Troops that had been stationed in the Neighbourhood of Gerau, and took Possession of Oppenheim.

The Marshal is now encamped in Front of Mayence, and his Light Troops are pursuing in all Directions.

* Round Pits of considerable Depth: each Range was composed of several Rows of those Pits, placed irregularly and quite close together.

Printed by EDWARD JOHNSTON, in Warwick-Lane,